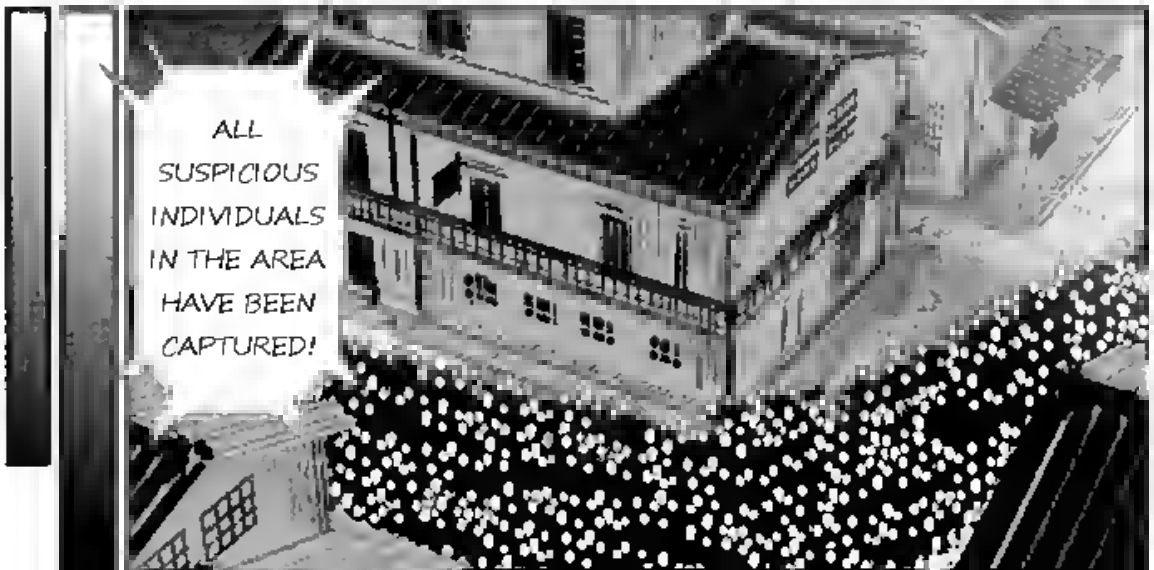
門の皇国物語 第四十四回
原作：白沢戎玄 漫画：ホーネまーゆ
FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION!
THIS IS AN ORDER FROM HIS HIGHNESS HIMSELF!
ACCOMPLISHING THE OBJECTIVE IS OUR PURPOSE IN LIFE!
OH,
WE'RE JUST DOING SOME NIGHTTIME TRAINING. SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
UM...

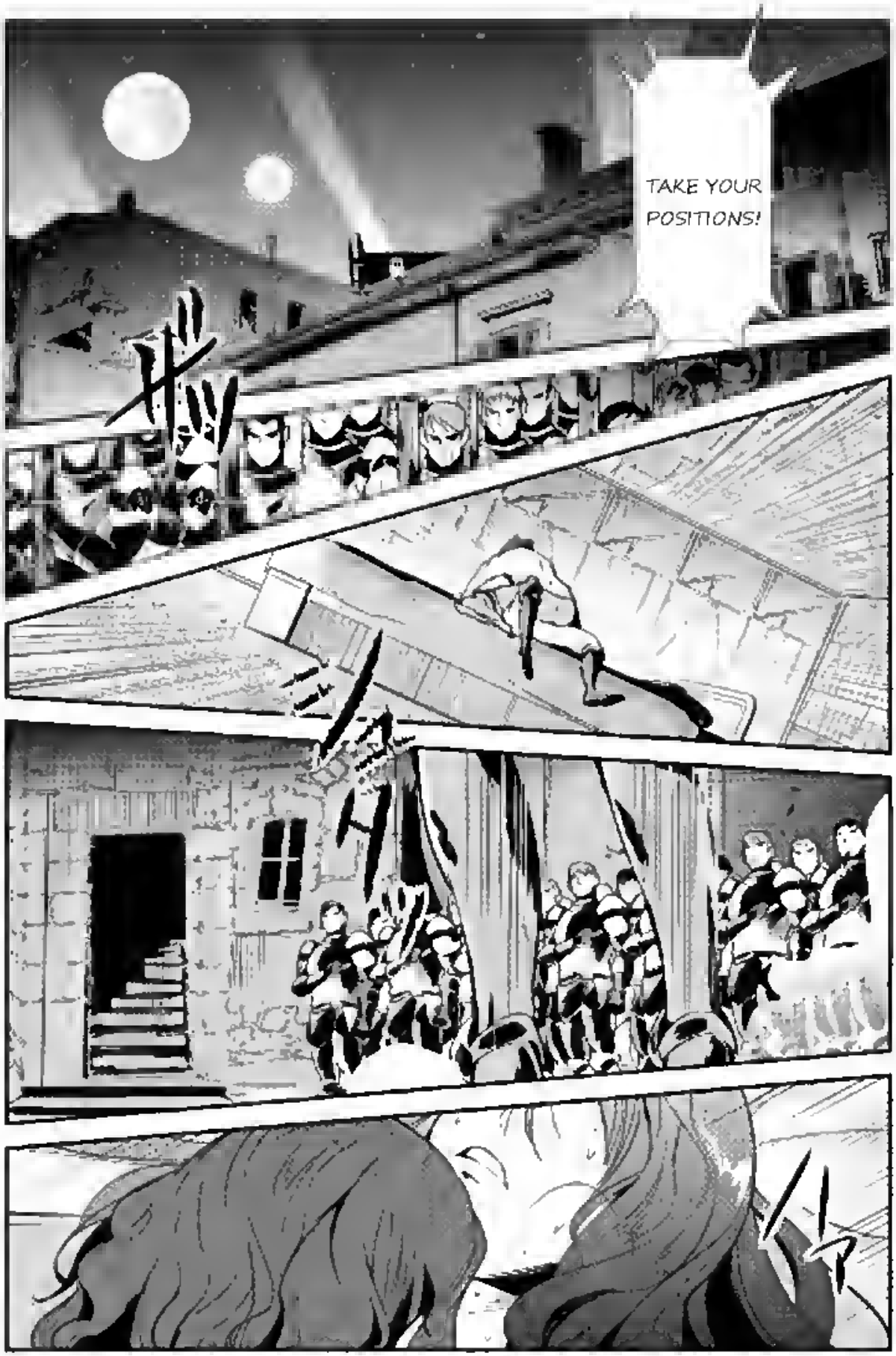
PLEASE TAKE CARE, IT'S RATHER LATE.
YES.
I WILL GO NOW.
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK.
SO IT'S JUST TRAINING?
HEY! NEW KID! THIS WAY!
HQ TO ALL UNITS,
THE FACT THAT THEY WERE PERMITTED TO EQUIP THEIR MAGICAL ARMOR MEANT FOR SUPPRESSION OF UPRISINGS REFLECTED THAT THEIR DIGNITY WAS ON THE LINE.
RIGHT AWAY!
THE GUARDS THAT WERE MARCHING OUT BASED ON LECTIVAL'S ORDERS WERE SO DRIVEN THAT THEIR EXPRESSIONS WERE THOSE OF DEMONS.

THE TARGET HAS BEEN LOCATED, IMMEDIATELY PROCEED TO GATHER AT THIS LOCATION.
... THOSE ARE THE PLEASURE QUARTERS, WHY WOULD THE ARCHBISHOP BE THERE?
HEY,
DON'T DAWDLE, WE'RE GOING!
ENCIRCLE-MENT COMPLETE!

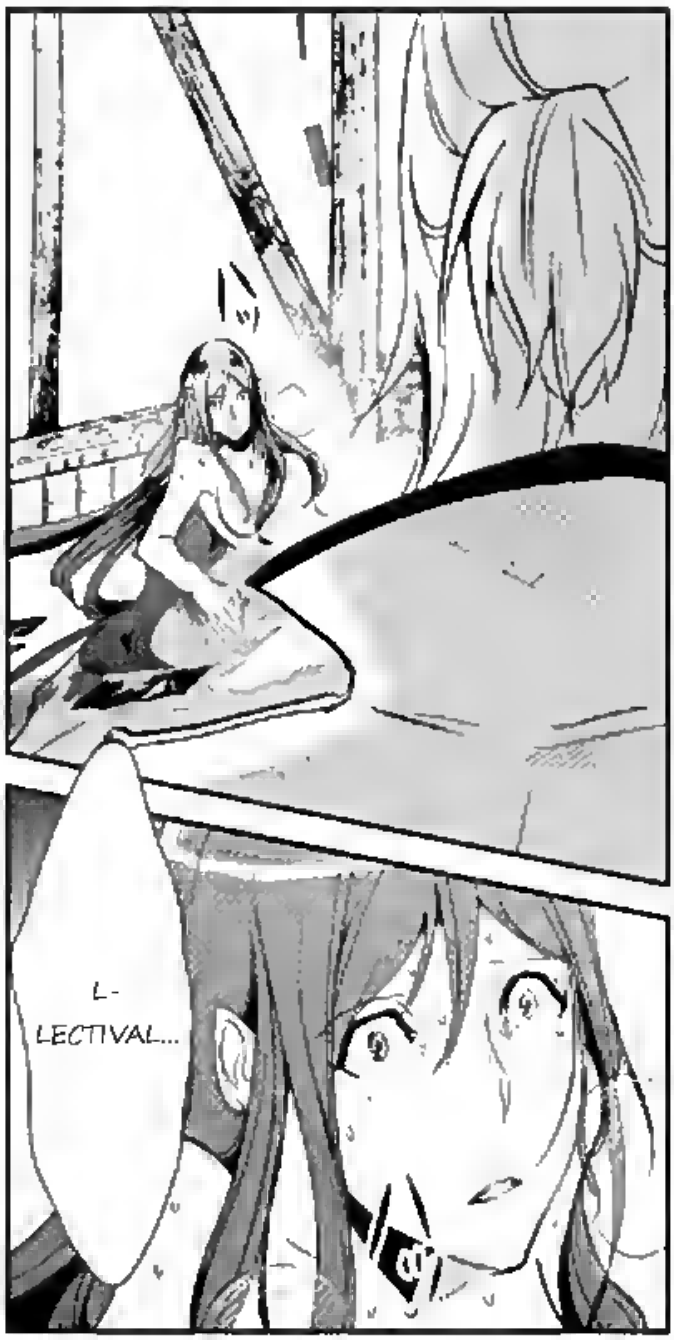

ALL SUSPICIOUS INDIVIDUALS IN THE AREA HAVE BEEN CAPTURED!

MOM, DID YOU JUST SEE SOMETHING ON THE ROOF?
NO, THERE'S NOTHING THERE.
PERHAPS IT'S JUST THE WIND.
AS LILICIA SAID, THE ONLY ONE WITH A MAGICAL SIGNATURE SIMILAR TO HERS IN THE CAPITAL IS MILEIDIA...
OVER THERE.

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WAS LAST ALONE...
THE MOMENT I AIMED FOR THE LONELY POSITION OF KING.
I CEASED TO BE ALONE.
FROM THE MOMENT I OPENED MY EYES IN THE WHITE DRAGON PALACE,
I WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE PEOPLE WITHIN REACH...
MERIELA, VILIA, LILICIA,
I WILL NOT PART WITH ANY OF THEM!
AND MILEIDIA...


TAKE YOUR POSITIONS!

WH-
ズバッ



L-
LECTIVAL...

I'LL BE
WAITING
OUTSIDE,

O-
OKAY...
GO WASH
YOURSELF.
...
ドロ
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NONE OF THE BLOOD SPRAYED ONTO ME? IS THAT ONE OF THE SWORD'S POWERS?

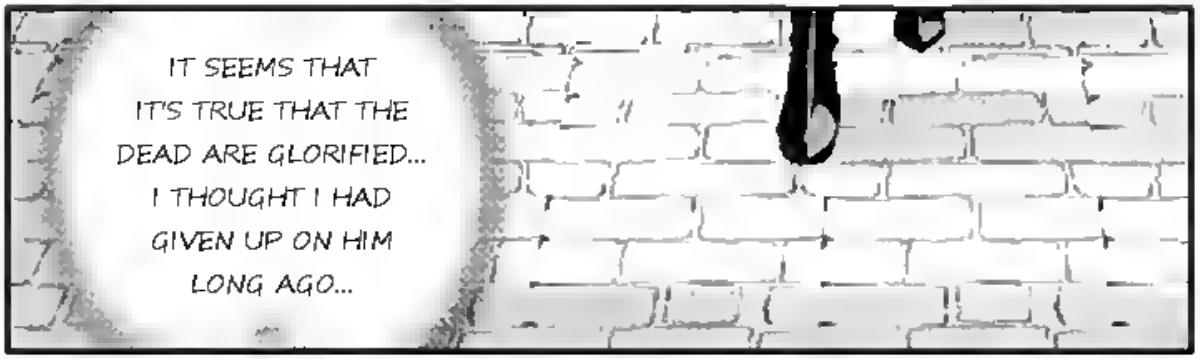
ト
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THE DOOR JUST SUDDENLY VANISHED...

LEAVE NO TRACES IN THE ROOM.
AND WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHER GUESTS?
THEY WERE PUT TO SLEEP WITH MAGIC, JUST AS PLANNED.
FIND ANYONE SUSPICIOUS AND WRING OUT ALL THE INFORMATION THEY HAVE.
レクティ
LECTIVAL...
アール…
IF NEED BE, SHOW THEM THE HEAD
AND TELL THEM THAT THEY SHOULDN'T EXPECT THIS LEVEL OF MERCY.

I'M HERE.
L-LECTIVAL?
カチャ
ビクッ!

THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.
Y-YES.
ARE THE CLOTHES THE RIGHT SIZE?

LET'S GO THEN.
GIVEN WHAT SORT OF PLACE THIS IS, A MAN AND WOMAN LEAVING TOGETHER WON'T BE UNUSUAL.
THE DOOR... EVEN THE ROOM LOOKS LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED HERE...
TH-THAT'S TRUE...
HE'S NOTHING LIKE THE MAN HE WAS A MOMENT AGO...


IT SEEMS THAT IT'S TRUE THAT THE DEAD ARE GLORIFIED... I THOUGHT I HAD GIVEN UP ON HIM LONG AGO...

NO... PERHAPS I'M JUST TRYING TO IGNORE MY OWN SIN...

LECTIVAL...

NO,
AND WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO YOU EITHER.
WILL LILICIA E
IMPLICATED IN THIS INCIDENT?
FOR THE TEMPLE TO FAIL IS FOR THE ROYAL FAMILY TO FAIL.
I'M SORRY FOR SHOWING YOU SOMETHING SO DISGRACEFUL.
THE COUNTRY HAS NOT YET HEALED ENOUGH TO ALLOW FOR THAT TO HAPPEN.
I WANT LILICIA-
SISTER-IN-LAW,

THAT REMINDS ME,
LILICIA SEWED THOSE CLOTHES.
SHE SAID THAT IT WAS JUST TO KILL SOME TIME, BUT SHE APPARENTLY ASKED THE TEMPLE FOR YOUR MEASUREMENTS.
BECAUSE OF WHO YOU ARE, I CANNOT DECIDE ON EVERYTHING THIS TIME AROUND.

I SEE. SO LILICIA WAS...
WHEN I WASN'T AROUND, LILICIA...
SHE'S LEARNED TO DO SO MANY THINGS.
... THE KNIGHT KNOWN AS CALLIAS DIED IN AN ACCIDENT ON HIS WAY TO THE CAPITAL.
THANKS TO HIS DEATH, THE TEMPLE'S HONOR WAS PROTECTED, THAT IS ALL-
LECTIVAL, I'M SORRY!
HOW WILL CALLIAS' DEATH BE HANDLED?

MILE-
HAHA... I'VE DONE IT NOW.
WHY...
WHY AM I CRYING?

I'D GUESS THAT RIGHT NOW YOU'RE SUPPRESSING YOUR DESIRE TO KILL ME RIGHT HERE.
MILEDIA, PLEASE
BUT FOR THE SAKE OF THOSE PEACEFUL DAYS THAT LILICIA DESIRES,
HELP ME!
DAMN YOU, LECTIVAL...
DO YOU THINK I'LL BE SATISFIED WITH THAT?
!!

YOU KNOW EVERYTHING AND YET YOU'RE ACTING LIKE THIS, JUST AFTER YOU KILLED MY FORMER LOVER IN FRONT OF ME...
AND FOR LILICIA, YOU WILL NEED TO MATURE HERE.
I KNOW VERY WELL THAT YOU CAN'T ACCEPT THIS, AND THAT IS PRECISELY WHY I WANT YOUR HELP.
YOU EVEN BRING UP LILICIA'S NAME LIKE SHE'S A HOSTAGE, JUST SO I CAN MAKE EXCUSES TO MYSELF...
... WHAT IS LILICIA TO YOU?
SHE WILL ONE DAY BE MY WIFE.
BUT WHEN IT COMES TO BLOODY MATTERS LIKE THIS, I WOULD PREFER HAVING YOU AROUND OVER LILICIA...
HMPH... I... SEE...

MILE-
DON'T YOU DARE UTTER THOSE WORDS TO ME AGAIN.
I'LL LEAVE... THE REST TO YOU... DON'T ASSAIL ME.
AH... THE DRUGS SHOULD KICK IN SOON.
WHAT?
HUH?!
MILEIDIA!